



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
**GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION**

**National Playground Safety Week**

**WHEREAS**, the safety and well being of children is a priority of this state; and

**WHEREAS**, more that 200,000 children are injured on playgrounds in the United States each year equaling an average of one playground-related emergency room visit every two-and-one-half minutes; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Program for Playground Safety has been created at the University of Northern Iowa to help inform the nation about playground injuries and possible ways to reduce the number of injuries; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Program for Playground Safety has identified key areas that could help substantially reduce the number of playground injuries and keep our children SAFE - providing: proper Supervision, Age appropriate equipment, materials to soften Falls to the Surface, and Equipment maintenance; and

**WHEREAS**, spring is often a time that children head to the playground and a large percentage of playground injuries occur from April through June; and

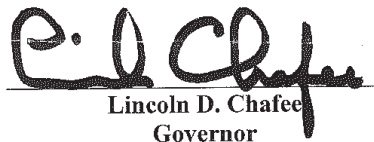
**WHEREAS**, child care centers, schools, parks and other public facilities are preparing for summer season and playground participants; and

**WHEREAS**, all of us that care about children make the commitment that no Rhode Island child shall play on an unsafe playground; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, **Lincoln D. Chafee**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim April 25 – 29, 2011 as National Playground Safety Week.



Given under my hand and the great  
seal of the State of Rhode Island  
and Providence Plantations,  
this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011

  
Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor

  
A. Ralph Mollis  
Secretary of State